



Hicken Bros. Meat Market, one of the early Heber businesses, is shown here with John H. Hicken the proprietor; at the left, Mont Hicken, Thelma Ohlwiler Wootton, Elthoria Hicken Halverson and Phyllis McMillan O'Toole. The picture was taken about 1908.

Orson Moulton, also a leading town butcher. Hicken Bros. was in business 18 years.

All meat markets now operate in connection with grocery stores or the Heber Exchange. Earl Smith and Sons operate a freezing and cold storage locker business in connection with their grocery and meat market. Meats are also sold at the Safeway Store and by Ezra Van Wagoner who operates what was formerly the O. P. Skaggs store on First South and Main.

### LUMBER YARDS

In March, 1933, Leslie Lowe Ashton, his wife and two young sons arrived in Heber to establish the lumber and hardware business called "Ashton's." Included in the partnership were two other brothers, C. L. Ashton of Roosevelt and Rae Ashton of Vernal. They located in the old Bonneville Lumber Company building which they had purchased from Morrison-Merrill Company of Salt Lake City.

A month later Mr. Ashton moved the old frame building back 50 feet to allow room for a service station which he built in connection with the business. Shell Oil products were distributed.



Ashton's Lumber and Hardware business as it is today in Heber.

In September, 1942, fire of unknown origin destroyed the firm, including most of the lumber sheds. The Ashtons then moved across the street to the old Jeff Cafe and Hotel building which had been vacated by the J. C. Penney Company. They were unable to build until after World War II, but did purchase the Hotel building from Mrs. Lizzie Jeffs McDonald and remodeled the ground floor for a hardware store, continuing to lease the top floor to the Jensen Hotel. They purchased the adjoining property to their burned out location from Tom Perry and new lumber sheds were constructed, with the front being reserved for a new store later.

Lowe Ashton and his wife Alyce purchased the stock from his brothers in 1943 and became sole owners of the business. They purchased the old Tithing Office property on Main Street and built a modern service station and garage. They also constructed the Aloma Motel in 1953 and Mrs. Ashton operated it until its sale in 1961 to Walter Gissemann.

A complete remodeling of the store occurred in 1952 and two companies were formed, Ashton's Inc., which was the lumber and hardware business, and Ashton Oil and Transportation Company, Inc. The lumber

yards were remodeled in 1955, with new offices, sheds and warehouses. Lowe Ashton died in 1957, but his wife and two sons, Lowe Ashton, Jr., and Homer H. Ashton have continued to manage the companies successfully.

### WASATCH MUTUAL AID SOCIETY

The Wasatch and Summit County Mutual Aid Society was organized in 1932, with membership available to those in good health between the ages of eight and 45. Membership fee was \$3.00.

The organizers, who came from outside the county, obtained a large membership. Chosen as local officers were Dr. T. A. Dannenberg, Dr. LeRoy Mahoney, Owen F. Buell, Charles N. Broadbent and Clark Bronson. The two-county organization lasted only a short time, and then Wasatch County alone grew to a membership of some 2,600 persons.

Curtis McMullin was the first secretary of the society, and he was succeeded by Clyde Broadbent. Mark Rasband also served for a short time.

The society paid \$1,000 upon the death of an insured member.

In 1958 the Utah Insurance Commission compelled the Society to convert to a regular insurance company. New policies had to be issued and premiums set up according to age, etc. This conversion caused a loss of some 1,000 members in the organization. Dr. Karl O. Nielson was chosen as the new society president when Dr. T. A. Dannenberg moved to California. Owen Buell later became president when Dr. Nielson died. Clark Bronson served as vice president. Still serving with Mr. Buell and Mr. Bronson are the directors, Dr. R. R. Green, Addison C. Moulton, Mark Rasband, and Rulon Carlile, secretary. Dr. Willard Draper and Forrest Dayton were also directors.

After the conversion the society took the name Wasatch Mutual Insurance Company. It is considered a sound company, and writes several different policies. It provides the only insurance many individuals in the county carry.

### CONFECTIONS AND NOTIONS

Another business of long duration in the community is the old Heber Confectionary, now known as the "Crown Cafe." The business began on a small scale and was operated by A. E. Dayton for a few years. He then sold it to J. T. Murdock and S. J. Hylton who improved it and increased the business. Later, O. H. Hylton gained fame all over the state as an ice cream maker, and the business under his management grew with his renown. Add Averett took over the business, and the young people began referring to the store as "Add's." Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln Rasband now own and operate the business as "Crown

Cafe." Its reputation for good ice cream has not diminished, and it is a favorite gathering place for young people.

Two stores located near the Central School were favorites of youngsters who attended that school. One was located on the corner where the Charles Bronson home now stands. Operated by Mrs. Annie McMillan, it was an outlet for candy and notions. School children would bring eggs to the store to exchange for candy. The other store was known as Clegg's Store, and was owned by Henry James Clegg. Starting as a small notions store, Mr. Clegg built the business into a general merchandise store. He always took time out to joke with or tease the youngsters who brought in their eggs or an occasional penny or nickel.

### BAKERIES

The history of baking in Heber extends back to the earliest pioneer days when Sarah Bond, wife of Jessie Bond, baked delicious loaves of bread in her home and sold them to appreciative friends and neighbors throughout the valley for a nickel each. However, it was about 1919 before baking became an independent, permanent business in the city with the opening of a bakery in the Jeffs Building by Namaan Wilmore. Owen Hylton was also one of the early permanent bakers in the city. Mr. Hylton, a leading confectioner, baked bread in an oven at the rear of the Jeffs Building and then sold it over the counter in his confectionary shop a few doors north.

Mr. Wilmore, a native of Eureka, learned the baking business from his family, and established his business in Heber after serving in the Navy during World War I. He occupied the Jeffs Building for two years and then moved across the street from the Tabernacle.

In 1923 Teenie Duke bought the bakery from Mr. Wilmore and operated it until 1927 when she sold it to Walter Seiter, a 20-year-old immigrant from Germany, who had learned the trade in his native land. Mr. Seiter was called to serve a mission for the Church in 1930 in Germany and sold the bakery back to Mrs. Duke who operated it until he returned in 1932, and sold it back again to Mr. Seiter. He has expanded the business considerably since then and now operates it in a new building with modern equipment.

### MILLINERY AND DRESSMAKING

Millinery shops also played a prominent part in the commerce of Heber, since nearly all the ladies had been schooled in the old world custom of always wearing a headdress of some kind. Many pioneer women found a place of safety for her bonnet when the wagons were being packed to come to the valley. Some few of these early pioneer hats are still in existence. Resourceful women of the pioneer era also



**HOMER HANSEN ASHTON**

Homer Hansen Ashton, 42, died January 5, 1975 in Las Vegas, Nevada of natural causes. Born October 22, 1932 Duchesne, Utah to Leslie Lowe and Alyce Hansen Ashton. Married Patricia Stewart. Divorced. Married Lola McGuire February 4, 1957 in Heber City, Utah.

Graduate of Wasatch Academy at Mt. Pleasant, Utah, and Woodbury College of Los Angeles, California. Member of Wasatch Chamber of Commerce. Charter member and President of Heber Valley Rotary. Member of Richfield Lions Club.

Survived by wife of Havasu City, Arizona and the following sons and daughters: Cindy, Leslie, Alyce and Shane all of Havasu City. Merrilynn of Arcadia, California; mother of Heber City; brother and sister, Lowe Ashton of Heber City; Mrs. Howard (Merry) Harmon of Bountiful.

Funeral services Thursday 1:00 p.m. Olpin Mortuary - Heber City, where friends may call Wednesday 7 - 9 p.m. and Thursday prior. Burial Heber City Cemetery.



## Ward Wesley Blizzard

KAMAS—Beloved husband and father, Ward Wesley Blizzard, 74, died November 29, 1985 in the Heber City Hospital.

Born September 5, 1911 Thatcher, Arizona to John Wesley and Laura Eleanor Pack Blizzard. Married Louella June Cummings



December 17, 1975. Member of LDS Church, active high priest. He was owner, manager of Kamas Valley Lumber and Kamas Woodland Telephone Company. He was Mayor of Kamas for eight years.

Survivors: wife, Kamas; daughter, Laura Jane Maxwell, Peoa, Utah; three stepsons, Michael Swenson, California; Jordan Swenson, Summit Park; Phillip Stevenson, Salt Lake City; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; brother, James H. Blizzard, Kamas; sister, Ruth Weaver, Layton; numerous nephews and nieces.

Funeral services will be Tuesday, Dec. 3, 1 p.m. at the Kamas Stake Center in Marion. Friends may visit Olpin Mortuary, Kamas, Monday, 7-8:30 p.m. and one hour prior to service at the stake center. Interment Francis Cemetery.

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